found. However, exporters can still obtain iron and steel at international prices through duty free import under the Duty Exemption Scheme.

Basel Convention

3660. DR MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:

SHRI TRILOKI NATH CHATURVEDI :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) what are the salient features of Basel Convention and whether Government propose to ratify the same and if so, in what manner the Convention will affect the Indian trade;

(b) what is the present quality and value of import of ferrous and non-ferrous scrap, plastic scrap and paper scrap and whether Government propose to ban such import; and

(c) whether the scrap recycling industry has made any representation to Government not to impose any such ban and if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) to (c) The Basel Convention seeks to prohibit the export of hazardous wastes without the consent in writing of the importing country. The exporting country has to ensure that the waste is disposed off in an environmentally sound manner in the importing country. The Convention is applicable to 47 categories of wastes (other than nuclear wastes) from hazardous industries and hazardous processes. It is the sovereign right of the importing country to prohibit import of such wastes if they do not consider it possible to manage it in an environmentally sound manner. India ratified the Convention on June 24, 1992. The import of hazardous wastes is regulated by the Hazardous Wastes (Management and Handling) Rules, 1989 notified under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.

As far as import of ferrous scrap is concerned, during 1992-93 2.57 million tonnes of scrap was imported and about 1 million tonnes is expected to have been imported during 1993-94. The present international price of shredded scrap is reported to be about US$ 170-175/ tonnes. As far as non-ferrous scrap is concerned, the value of imports during 1992-93 was as follows:

Waste and scrap of plastics	Rs.	18.80	crores
Waste and scrap of paper	Rs.	136.24	crores
Copper waste and scrap	Rs.	253.39	crores
Waste and scrap of nickle	Rs.	0.70	crores
Aluminium waste and scrap	Rs.	4.33	crores
Lead waste and scrap	Rs.	4.83	crores
Zinc waste and scrap	Rs.	0.30	crores
Tin waste and scrap	Rs.	0.10	crores

The Steel Furnace Association of India which represents the interests of the electric are furnace industry in the country has represented to the Government requesting that no ban be imposed on the import of scrap into India from the European countries. The Chemicals and Pharmaceuticals Association has on the other hand represented for restricting the import of plastic scrap/waste on the ground that this type of waste is being dumped in India affecting environment and general public health. Indian Organic Chemicals Limited on the other hand have represented for the continuance of import of plastic scrap on the ground that this is a raw material required for the manufacture of polyester fibre.

Transfer of Technologies to Foreign Countries

3661. SYED SIBTEY RAZI : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the country has earned Rs. 130 crores during 1993-94 by way of transfer of indigenous technologies to some foreign countries of the world;

(b) if so, the names of such countries with areas of such earning;

(c) whether such earning is mainly due to the efforts of C.S.I.R.;

(d) whether Government propose to take some measures to boost such earnings in future; and

(e) if so, details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) to (e) : The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Indian Trade Exhibitions in Several Countries

3662. SYED SIBTEY RAZI : SHRI SURESH PACHOURI :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the India Trade Promotion Organisation proposes to organise Indian Trade Exhibitions in several countries;

(b) if so, details thereof with objectives behind this move;

(c) whether some products to be displayed in the exhibition have been identified;

(d) if so, names of these products with estimated earning of foreign exchanges from this;

(e) whether I.T.P.O. also proposed to organise some exhibition titled "Indexpo 94" during August, 1994;

(f) if so, details thereof with objectives behind this ;

(g) whether the trade exhibitions will boost our export; and

(h) if so, details thereof and if not, reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) to (d) : India Trade Promotion Organisation (ITPO) have